

ARTICLES

O F

Visitation and Enquiry

Concerning Matters



ECCLESIASTICAL

Exhibited to the

Ministers, Church-wardens, and Side-men,

Of every Parish within the

Diocese of Lincoln,

AT THE

PRIMARY VISITATION

OF THE

Right Reverend Father in God

THOMAS

TENISON

Lord BISHOP of that Diocese,

Anno Dom. 1693.

Printed in the Year MDCXCIII.

22.

The form of the OATH to be
Administred to the *Church-wardens,*
and *Side-men* of every Parish.

YOU shall Swear Truly and Faithfully, accord-
ing to the best of your skill and knowledg, to
present such Things and Persons, (enquired
of in these Articles) as to your knowledg are Presentable,
by the Laws Ecclesiastical of this Realm.

So help you God, and the holy Contents of
this Book.

ARTICLES

Of *Visitation, &c.* in the Diocese
of *LINCOLN.*

TIT. I.

*Concerning Churches, Chappels, with the things belonging
thereunto.*

IS your Parish-Church or Chappel, both in the Roof and Windows, Floor and Seats, in good and sufficient Repair; and are all things therein kept in an orderly and decent sort? Can. 85.

II. Is there a Font of Stone in your Church or Chappel, with a Cover to it, standing in the ancient usual place? Doth your Minister there baptize publickly? Is there a decent Communion-Table in your Chancel; covered in time of Divine Service with a Carper, and when the Communion is administred, with a fair Linnea Cloath? And have you a Chalice or Communion-Cup, with a Cover, and one or more Flagons? Have any of these been profaned by common Use? Can. 81, 82.

III. Have you a convenient Seat or Pew wherein to read Divine Service; a Pulpit; a large Bible of the last Translation; a Book of Common-Prayer published 1662; the Book of Homilies set forth by Authority; a printed Table of the Degrees wherein Marriages are prohibited; a Book of Canons; and a decent Surplice? Can. 80, 81, 83.

IV. Have you a Parchment Book for the Registring of the Day and Year of every Christning, Wedding, and Burial in your Parish; and is it kept in all points according to the Canon in that behalf? Can. 70.

TIT. II. *Concerning the Church-yard, Houses, Glebes and Tythes
belonging to the Church.*

IS your Church-yard well fenced, and decently kept? Hath any person encroached upon it, or made any door into it? And how long since?

II. Is the House of your Parson, Vicar, or Curate, and the Out-houses in good repair? Have any of them been defaced or pulled down without License? Have there been any Encroachments made upon the same, and by whom?

Can. 87.

III. Have you a true Terrier of all the Glebelands, Meadows, Gardens, Orchards, Tenements or Cottages belonging to your Parsonage or Vicarage? (As also a Note of such Rents Rates Tyths, and Portions of Tyths, or other yearly Profits (either within or without your Parish) as belong therunto? Have any of them been withheld from your Minister, and by whom, as you know and have heard? And is your Terrier laid up in the Bishop's Registry?

T I T. III. Concerning Ministers.

Can. 48.

I. Is your Minister licensed by the Bishop? Hath he been legally inducted? And read the 39 Articles within the time by Law appointed, and declared his Assent thereunto? Is he defamed or suspected to have obtained either his Benefice or Orders by any Simoniack compact?

Stat. 13 Eliz.
c. 12.

Can. 45, 47,
48.

II. Is your Minister constantly resident among you, and doth he preach every Lord's day, unless hindered by Sickness or reasonable absence? How long in any one Year hath he been absent from his Cure? who supplies it during his absence? Doth he serve any other Cure besides, or hath he any other Ecclesiastical Benefice?

Act of Uniformity.

III. Doth your Parson, Vicar or Curate, in reading the daily Morning and Evening Service, Administration of the Holy Sacraments, Celebration of Marriage, Churching of Women after Child birth, Visitation of the Sick, Burial of the Dead, use the Form and Words prescribed in the Book of Common Prayer? Doth he read with an audible and distinct Voice? Doth he observe all such Rites and Ceremonies, as are appointed in that Book, so far as you have taken notice of.

Rubr. before
Morn. and E-
ven. Prayers.
Can. 58.

IV. Doth your Minister at the Reading and Celebrating Divine Offices in your Church or Chappel wear the Surplice; together with such other Habit as is suitable to his Degree?

Can. 21, 22, 26.
Rubric before
the Commun.

V. Doth he celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper so often that every Parishioner may receive it thrice at least in every Year? And doth he keep back such as ought not to be admitted, giving an account of them to the Bishop.

Can. 59.
Rubric before
Confirmation.
Can. 61.

VI. Doth your Minister diligently instruct the Youth of your Parish in the Church Catechism? And doth he prepare and present

present them, being so instructed, to be confirmed by the Bishop?

VII. Doth he refuse or neglect to visit the Sick; or delay the Baptism of any Infant in danger of death? Is there any Child past Infancy, or other Persons grown up, who, through your Minister's default, yet remains unbaptized in your Parish?

Can. 67, 69.

VIII. Hath he married any Persons in private Houses; or such as being under Age have not the Consent of their Parents or Guardians; or without Banns first published in the Church on three Sundays or Holy-days, unless he had a License so to do; or at any other House than between Eight and Twelve in the Morning.

Can. 62, 63.

IX. Doth your Minister declare to the People every Sunday, at the time appointed in the Communion Book, the several Holy-days and Fasting days in the Week following? And doth he observe them? Doth your Minister twice every Year, on some Lord's day after Evening prayer, in your Church or Chappel, publish the Statute made against profane Swearing and Cursing? and on the Fifth of November, after Morning Prayer or Sermon, read distinctly and plainly the Act for publick Thanksgiving on that day; according as it is by those Laws required?

Can. 64.

16 Car. I. c. 4.

3 Jac. I. c. 1.

X. Is he a Man of a sober, studious, peaceable and exemplary Life? Is he grave, modest and regular in his outward Deportment and Apparel? Is he in any kind disorderly and scandalous? Does he spend his time in any unlawful Game?

Can. 75.

XI. Have you a Lecturer in your Church or Chappel, and who is he? Was he, before he entred upon his Lecture, approved and licensed according to the late Act of Uniformity? Doth he, upon the first Lords day in every Month, duly perform all that the said Act requires of him? Hath he any Benefice with Cure of Souls elsewhere?

Act of Uniformity.

T. T. IV. Concerning the Parishioners.

Doth every Parishioner demean himself reverently in your Church or Chappel, during Divine Service and preaching the Word of God; kneeling at the Prayers and Sacrament; standing up when the Creed and Gospel are read; laying audibly, with the Minister, the Confession, Lord's prayer and Creed; and making such other Answers to the Publick Prayers as are appointed in the Book of Common Prayer? Are there any Loiterers near the Church in time of Divine Service or Sermon?

Can. 18.

Can. 19.

Can. 109.

II. Is there any Person in your Parish who lieth under a common Fame or suspicion of Adultery, Fornication, or Incest? Are there any common Drunkards, Swearers, or Blasphemers of God's Name? Or any that are noted to be filthy Talkers, Railers, Sowers of Sedition, Faction, and Discord among their Neighbours?

Rubrick after
Communion.
Can 85. 89.

III. Are there any that refuse to pay their Duty for *Easter Offerings*; or to contribute to the Rates made for repair of your Church or Chappel, or any thing thereunto belonging?

IV. Hath any Legacy been left by the last Will or Testament of any Persons, to your Church or Chappel, or to the Poor, or any other pious or charitable Use? Which hath been mis-spent or embezzeled?

Act for exem-
pting, &c.

V. Are there any in your Parish, who under pretence of Liberty of Conscience, wholly neglect all publick Worship of God; neither going to Church, nor to any Assembly that meet together, according to the late Act for exempting Their Majesties Protestant Subjects dissenting from the Church of *England*, from the Penalties of certain Laws?

VI. Have you any such Assembly of Dissenters in your Parish? Have they certified the place of their Meeting to the Bishop, or such others as that Act appoints? Do they meet with their Doors lock'd, barr'd, or bolted, during the time of their Meeting? Have their Preachers subscribed the Articles of our Religion, except those excepted in the Act, and taken the Oaths, and subscribed the Declaration therein required?

Can. 112.

VII. Are there any who profess to live in the Communion of the Church of *England*, who neglect to come to the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, being of Age fit to receive it?

Can. 99.

VIII. Are there any living within your Parish, as Man and Wife, who are within the Degrees prohibited?

IX. Do you know, or have you heard of any in your Parish, who having a Presentation of an Ecclesiastical Living, hath made any Simoniackal Compact or Gain thereby; either in Money, or by reserve of any part of the Tithes or Glebe belonging to the Benefice?

X. Have any Pews or Seats been erected in your Church or Chappel without leave from the Ordinary? Is there any strife or contention about Seats in the Church? Have any occasioned Riot, Clamor, or Disturbance in the Church at any time?

T I T.

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TIT. V. *Concerning Parish-Clerks and Sextons.*

I. **H**AVE you a Parish Clerk Aged 21 years at least? Is he of an honest Life and Conversation? Able to perform his duty in Reading, Writing, and Singing? Is he chosen by your Minister? Doth he duly attend him in all Divine Services in the Church? Are his Wages duly paid him? Or who withholds the same from him? Can. 91.

II. Doth your Sexton perform his Duty diligently, in keeping the Church clean and decent, in tolling and ringing the Bells before Divine Service?

TIT. VI. *Concerning Schoolmasters, Schools, &c.*

I. **W**HAT Schoolmaster, Private or Publick is there in your Parish; Is he licensed by the Bishop? Doth he teach his Scholars the Church Catechism? Doth he cause them to repair orderly to the Church or Chappel on Sundays and Holy-days, and the re see that they behave themselves quietly and reverently during the time of Divine Service and Sermon? Can. 77, 78.

II. What Hospital, Alms-house, or Free-School hath been Founded in your Parish? Are they so ordered in their Revenue and Use, as the Founders appointed, and the Law of the Land allows?

III. Do any in your Parish practise Physick, Chirurgery, Midwifery, without license from the Ordinary?

TIT. VII. *Concerning Ecclesiastical Officers.*

I. **D**OES any such Officer pretend to authorize or permit any one, coming to reside in this Diocese, to Preach, Read, Lecture, Catechise, or Minister the Sacraments, or to execute any other Ecclesiastical Function, unless he first consent, and subscribe to the Three Articles mentioned in *Can. 36.* in presence of the Bishop. Can. 37.

II. Hath any Chancellor, Commissary, Archdeacon, or Official, sped any judicial A&T, without the Register of that Court, or his lawful Deputy, or in their absence, without such Persons as are allowed in that behalf? Can. 123.

III. Do peculiar, and inferiour Courts exhibit the original Copies of Wills into the Register Office? Can. 126.

IV. Hath

Can. Anno
1571. Tit.
Cancell. &c.

IV. Hath any Ecclesiastical Officer commuted any Penance of any delinquent Convicted? And how hath the Money been disposed of?

Can. 135.

V. Hath any Ecclesiastical Officer taken any Money for the Communion?

Can. 89.

E T I T. VIII. Concerning Churchwardens and Sidesmen.

AR E the Churchwardens chosen yearly and daily chosen by the consent of your Minister and Parishioners? Or One of them by your Minister, and the other by the Parishioners?

Ibid.

II. Have the former and last Churchwardens, given up a just account of the Money they have received and laid out for the Use of the Church? And have they delivered up the Money remaining in their hands to the succeeding Churchwardens, together with all other things belonging to your Church or Chappel?

Rubrick after
Communion.

III. Does the Curate and Churchwardens provide against every Communion appointed in your Church or Chappel, sufficient quantity of fine White Bread, and good Wine, according to the number of Communicants, at the charge of the Parish?

Ibid.

IV. Do the Churchwardens at any time dispose of the Money given at the Offertory without the concurrence of the Minister?

FINIS.